

BARRE DAILY TIMES

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Sweden has caught President Wilson's fear of the epidemic of war.

The leak investigation is "sparring for wind," as they say in pugilistic circles.

Thomas W. Lawson probably listened too credulously to the gossiping of a woman.

It is all right for the White House suffragette patrol to warm their feet with hot bricks if they do not throw them cold.

A proposed draft for the Vermont militia is a most drastic step and not acceptable to all the people of the state by any means.

The postoffice at West Dummerston is to be discontinued. If West Dummerston were in the South they would be erecting a \$30,000 federal building to house the business.

When anyone is looking for amusement he can get it by criticizing Secretary McAdoo. There is no more fluent slinger of fantastic words than this same McAdoo.

The election of Jacob G. Estey of Brattleboro to the directorate of the National Life Insurance company secures the services of one of the leading business men of the state for that concern.

Chief Justice Loveland Munson, who retires from the Vermont supreme court bench after 28 years of incumbency, two of which have been as chief justice, carries with him the good will of the entire people of Vermont. He has given good, conscientious, intelligent, service.

Most motorists view with equanimity the increase of one cent a gallon in the price of gasoline; that is, they view the increase with equanimity now, when the machine is up on stilts. Four months from now they will begin to worry if the price does not drop in the meantime.

When the entente allies say that no peace will be durable unless they win the present war, they forget that Germany will chafe over defeat until she will muster all her forces for another great conflict. On the other hand, if the entente allies do not win, Germany is quite likely to become so over-bearing and arrogant that the remainder of the world cannot stand it. So there seem to be two horns to the dilemma. In either case, Germany's aspirations for world leadership will have to be reckoned with.

Announcement that the Vermont Historical society has \$3,797.63 for a Dowe memorial is encouraging because that sum forms a nest-egg for the much greater fund necessary to carry out the project in reasonable style. The amount to be expended for the memorial should be no less than \$35,000, and in casting about for a type of memorial that would be appropriate, the projectors would find nothing more suitable than the beautiful Burns memorial located in Barre. A statue of Admiral Dewey fashioned after that design would be both beautiful and enduring.

More than one newspaper throughout the country has already pointed out that of the four prominent naval figures in the Spanish-American war two were Vermont-born men—and the two leading figures, it might be added, because Dewey and Clark stood out above the others, Sampson and Schley. But one of the quartet of men remains, he being Rear Admiral Charles E. Clark, retired, who, though advanced in years, is enjoying fairly good health. Rear Admiral Clark has retained his home ties with Vermont quite closely, returning each summer to spend many weeks among the Green mountains and attending functions now and then in various parts of his native state. Vermont people have great affection for the commander of the old Oregon and they are glad to have him return at any time.

Those Vermont contemporaries that are inclined to ridicule the efforts that have been made to prevent the outbreak of scarlet fever in 82 Vermont cities and towns as the result of possible contact of many boys of those communities with the youth who had the disease at the Older Boys' conference in Burlington recently will think differently about the matter if scarlet fever should break out in many places in the state. The time to prevent the epidemic, if there is danger of an epidemic, is before the disease has got a commanding start; and it looks to us as if the precautions already taken are very wise, admitting, of course, that there is no need for becoming unduly excited over the fear that scarlet fever may break out. The vigilance of the health authorities who sent warning to all the cities and towns concerned, as was reported to have been done, is to be commended very much indeed.

THE GERMAN SEA MENACE.

Entente shipping will not rest easy, nor will it be at all safe, until the sea is rid of the commerce raider which is now operating in the waters of the south Atlantic ocean. Already the raider has taken

on a heavy toll of large merchant ships, both British and French, causing very heavy loss of cargo and a still heavier loss in carrying capacity. Just how the raider managed to get out on the high seas is a matter of conjecture; but it is probable the vessel slipped out of her naval base during some naval maneuvers which served as a distracting influence for the fleet of the enemy. Judging by the reports which have come from South America, the raider has been adhering to international rules of sea warfare, as the passengers and crews of several of the ships have already come to land and been reported. It is evident that the pursued ships were warned and that they, in turn, decided that discretion was the better part of valor, as the result of which they were treated like legitimate prizes of war, their crews and passengers being taken off before the ships were blown up. Germany thereby furnishes evidence that Von Bernstorff was speaking the truth when he said that Germany intended to live up to its promises to the Washington government. The results are also a proof that warfare on commerce can be conducted successfully without resorting to the horrors perpetrated earlier in the war by Teuton submarines.

CURRENT COMMENT

State Forestry Policy.

State Forester A. F. Hawes has announced his resignation to take effect within a month and he has accepted an important position in the federal service. House bill number 39 proposes to place the duties of the state forester upon the secretary of agriculture, and declines his rights and powers as state forester. Under these conditions it seems proper to consider what the policy of the state shall be in the matter of forestry.

We note that the bill mentioned above gives the state forester authority to accept gifts of land to the state, the same to be held, protected and administered as a state forest reserve, but does not give him authority to buy lands for the purpose of establishing state forests. This, we believe, is wise. The state should not expend money for the purchase of forest lands. It has spent several thousands of dollars in the past in the purchase of lands once covered with forests but should not continue this policy. The state cannot buy desirable forest lands without paying more for them than a practical lumber man would pay. It has not been demonstrated as yet that the state can own and conduct timber land at a profit, and it should not expend more money in this direction until it is demonstrated to be a profitable and safe financial undertaking.

It would be proper to accept the gift of lands adapted to the growth of timber and to demonstrate thereon the proper and profitable methods of growing timber. But that is as far as the state should go at present. This bill, if enacted into law, will give the state a better forestry policy than it has had in the years past.—St. Johnsbury Caledonian.

No Secret Diplomacy Wanted.

We view with profound distrust all proposals for secret diplomatic negotiations between our government and that of Germany whether they have their origin in Washington or Berlin. We see in them a peril to the interests and the honor of the American people. Any interchange which requires concealment must from that very fact be risky.

Apart from the danger of this country becoming entangled in engagements contrary to its honor and sense of right, there is the inevitable suspicion with which all the entente powers would regard secret communications between President Wilson and the Teutonic powers. They would assume at once that plans were being laid and agreements framed to their disadvantage. Indeed, they would not be far wrong. What else could Germany possibly seek in secret negotiations but an ascendancy in American policy detrimental to the other belligerents? But, if by drawing closer to Germany in secret we should estrange the allies in the open, wherein would be the profit to our government, country or people from the proposed course? Plainly it is not the good of the United States in its latest move; its aim is in ever, Deutschland uber alles.

The advantage to Germany of the secret method is quite obvious. It enables the kaiser to demand compensation from us in the surrender of principle or position for every concession he makes. The American people object to being forced to pay for their own rights, and no plan of give and take can be carried on with their knowledge and consent. We hope Mr. Wilson and Mr. Lansing will see the point with clear vision and will steadfastly refuse to be lured behind the fog in conducting the country's international affairs.—New York Evening Sun.

COMMISSIONERS' NOTICE

ESTATE OF JOHNSON VIVIAN

The undersigned, having been appointed by the honorable probate court for the district of Washington, COMMISSIONERS, to receive, examine, and adjust the claims and demands of all persons against the estate of Johnson Vivian, late of the town of Barre, in said district, deceased, and all claims exhibited in offset thereto, hereby give notice that we will meet for the purpose aforesaid, at the town clerk's office in the town of Barre, in said district, on the 10th day of February and 23 day of June next, from 10 o'clock a. m. until 4 o'clock p. m., on each of said days, and that six months from the 23d day of December, A. D. 1916, is the time limited by said court for said creditors to present their claims to us for examination and allowance.

Dated at the town of Barre this 17th day of January, A. D. 1917.
ERNEST H. BAILEY,
JOHN W. SHERIDAN,
Commissioners.

COMMISSIONERS' NOTICE

ESTATE OF PEARL DOW

The undersigned, having been appointed by the honorable probate court for the district of Washington, COMMISSIONERS, to receive, examine, and adjust the claims and demands of all persons against the estate of Pearl Dow, late of Barre Town, in said district, deceased, and all claims exhibited in offset thereto, hereby give notice that we will meet for the purpose aforesaid, at the store of M. J. Whitham, in the town of Barre, in said district, on the 7th day of February and 25th day of June next, from 1 o'clock p. m. until 4 o'clock p. m., on each of said days, and that six months from the 25th day of December, A. D. 1916, is the time limited by the court for said creditors to present their claims to us for examination and allowance.

Dated at Barre, this 15th day of January, A. D. 1917.
WILLIAM A. CUTLER,
HOWARD W. NORRIS,
Commissioners.

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS

(Continued from first page)

to amend Sec. 3,143 of the public statutes, relating to the definition of a minor. (Persons until they reach the age of 21 years shall be a minor.) To judiciary committee.

By Mr. Osgood of Rutland Town (by request), an act to amend Sec. 480 of the public statutes as amended by Sec. 1 of No. 28 of the acts of 1910, relating to poll taxes. (Poll tax fixed at \$1 each.) To committee on taxation.

By Mr. Aiken of Putney, an act relating to the prevention of damage and nuisance from smoke. (Shops, mills or factories using soft coal as fuel must be equipped with devices to prevent damage or nuisance from smoke. Fine of \$25 for each day's neglect.) To general committee.

By Mr. Parsons of Hubbardston, an act relating to the standard of purity and quality for ice cream and ice cream products and to regulate the sale thereof. (Defines ice cream, a frozen product made from cream and sugar, with or without gelatine and a natural flavoring and containing not less than 14 per cent of milk fat. Fruit ice cream, a frozen product made from cream, sugar and sound, clean, mature fruit, with or without pure gelatine and containing not less than 12 per cent of milk fat. Nut ice cream, a frozen product made from cream, sugar and sound, non-rancid nuts, with or without pure gelatine and containing not less than 12 per cent of milk fat. No ice cream to be marketed or sold unless it conforms to these standards. Substitutes not permitted to bear names of ice cream or cream. Fixes penalty of \$400 or one year's imprisonment for violation.) To committee on public health.

By Mr. Brooks of Montpelier, an act to provide for erecting a tablet to the memory of Ammi B. Young. (Appropriator \$500 for tablet to be placed in the state capitol in memory of its architect.) To committee on public building.

By Mr. Hopkins of Wallingford, an act to amend Sec. 1 of No. 305 of the acts of 1906, as amended by Sec. 1 of No. 316 of the acts of 1915, relating to fire district No. 1 of Wallingford. (Fixes new lines for the fire district.) To committee on municipal corporations.

By Mr. Osgood of Rockingham, an act to amend Sec. 3,310 of the public statutes, relating to neglect to furnish certificate of death. (If physician in attendance is unable to give cause of death, this fact shall be reported to the health officer, if there is one, otherwise to a member of the local board.) To committee on public health.

GOV. GRAHAM EXPLAINS.

Tells Legislative Farmers' Club of Scope of Agricultural Bill.

Responding to an urgent invitation to explain in detail the agricultural bill, Gov. Graham gave a half-hour talk last evening at the meeting of the Farmers' club held in the representatives' hall. The meeting was attended by a majority of the House members, some senators and a large number of legislative visitors.

In opening his remarks the governor said that he did not care to enter into any debate about any of his plans because he realized the dignity of the office to which he had been so kindly elected, neither did he wish to cast reflections upon anybody, but he appeared simply for the purpose of making more clear his position on agriculture, having been invited to do so by the club.

He said he believed he was on the right track and moreover had the courage of his convictions. Centralization, he said, was the main idea, consolidating offices so that the people may have someone to look to for responsibility. Under the divided system the board is many times prompt to assume the credit for good work but equally careful to shift the responsibility for some act not so creditable.

Explaining his position on agriculture, Gov. Graham asserted he believed that Vermont should do more to-day for agriculture than yesterday and more to-morrow than to-day. He would be the last man to interfere with proper forestry or agricultural development.

Taking up the question of one man being able to handle all the duties of the combined offices of commissioner of agriculture, livestock commissioner, state forester, etc., he said that it was his firm opinion that one man can, with proper assistance and support, and better than at present, that statement being made without the intention of casting any reflections.

He touched briefly upon the board of control, saying that it should prove helpful to have such a body that a head of a department could go each month to obtain assistance and ideas. Such a board should be appointed by the governor, responsible to the governor and in sympathy with him and his ideas.

There may not be economy, said Gov. Graham, in the consolidation plan, but better service and more for your money would be the resulting gain.

In taking up the matter of the agricultural schools he told the club that he had received a letter from Theodore N. Vail of Lyndon in which the writer intimated that he understood something was to be done to the Lyndon school. The governor said he did not bring in the letter because similar letters have been sent to every member of the legislature, according to Mr. Vail.

The governor brought forth a laugh when he said that he had a plan, it might not be the best plan, but compared with the man who has no plan, it is a whole of a plan.

In closing he said that Vermont is a little state but we can develop it into a great state, not in territory, but great in results. He prompted the legislators to give his plan due consideration and not to hurry and that whatever the result, whether it was adopted or rejected, all would go home friends. Gov. Graham was given a rising vote of thanks at the conclusion of his brief talk.

GRANITEVILLE

Miss Catherine Ford of Boston is the guest of Miss Blanche Reason.

Mrs. W. H. Miles is spending a few days in Montpelier with her daughter.

N. A. McLeod has sold his house to Almon Wells.

E. R. Sutor, who has been seriously ill for several weeks, is able to be out again. Miss Effie MacDonald, who was caring for him, completed her duties there last Saturday.

The condition of Frank McGuire, whose arm was broken just above the elbow last week in a runaway, is much improved.

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Sutor of Calgary, who have been visiting relatives here, have returned to their home.

FAVORS DUAL SYSTEM.

Ex-Judge Tyler Writes to John W. Gordon About Court Reform.

The following letter from former Judge John M. Tyler of Brattleboro to John W. Gordon of Barre relates to the present discussion in Vermont over the proposed abolishment of the superior judges:

"Brattleboro, Vt., Jan. 15, 1917.

"Hon. John W. Gordon,
"Barre, Vt.

"My dear Sir:

"Your letter of the 11th inst. would have been sooner answered had I not been practically disabled by a heavy cold.

"You request my views in respect to our present dual system of supreme and county courts. I hesitate about writing fully on this subject for two reasons: One is, I have been so long out of the courts and out of law practice, that I may not be competent to express an opinion on the subject. Ex-Chief Judge Rowell and Chief Judge Munson can speak from recent experience. Another reason is, I dislike to oppose any recommendation of his excellency, Governor Graham, for whom I have great respect. I may add, deep personal regard. He is a sincere man and believes in whatever he advocates.

"But you ask for my opinion on a question that is of grave importance to the state, and it may be my duty to give it for whatever it may be worth. Therefore, I state that it is my settled conviction, after many years' experience in the supreme and county courts and after closely observing the working of the present system since I left the courts, that our present dual system is the true one, an ideal one, and should not be changed for another.

"The reasons for this view are obvious: The courts are now composed of the right number of judges. Six judges are required for the county courts, each judge taking four terms in the large counties, with Grand Isle and Essex courts to be held by some one of the six judges.

"It is common knowledge that there has been a large increase in criminal business in the last 25 years, that personal injury cases have multiplied and encumber our dockets, as they encumber court dockets everywhere. The result is, the six judges, with the work they do sitting as chancellors, are fully employed. As chancellors, they now try a great many cases that were formerly tried by masters, at large expense to the state.

"To the statement that seven judges formerly performed all the work of both courts, I reply, that the business of the county courts has increased, as above indicated, and that under the old system judges were constantly compelled to cut their terms short, being required to attend terms of the supreme court, and when those terms ended the judges were booked for other counties. I have a vivid recollection that in six large counties the September terms were rarely finished—no matter how important that cases be tried—they were continued because the presiding judge must attend the October term of supreme court. March and December terms often met the same fate. The result was, the dockets were loaded with cases and could not be reached and tried. Now, as I am informed, the superior judges make it a rule to clear their dockets. Cases cannot be continued without good reason shown therefor.

"Our present dual system was seriously considered several years, and was finally adopted as necessary for the disposal of the business of the court. The seven judges did not and could not do all the work of the county courts.

"The experience of other states ought to be of some value. Nearly every state in the union had preceded ours in the adoption of a system of dual courts as the best system to be had, and no state had abandoned it.

"Our six superior judges are competent, industrious, faithful workers. It has been widely reported that the expense of running the county courts has largely increased in the last ten years. The statements published by Judge Taylor and Hon. W. A. Dutton, in November last, place this view in its true light. These statements should be read by every voter, for they show that counties that properly belong to county courts have not appreciably increased, though longer terms and more cases tried might warrant some increase in expense.

"I have expressed my views with reluctance, moved solely by an earnest wish that the best interests of our courts may be conserved.

"Very truly yours,
"James M. Tyler.

Happy Ending.

Patience—Has your brother finished that story he was writing?
Patrice—Oh, yes.
"Did it have a happy ending?"
"Oh, yes, he's sold it."—Yonkers.

She—What does it mean when the name of a stock in the stock market quotations has the letters "w. i." after it?
He (who didn't know himself until he bought on a five-point margin)—Wasted income, as far as I can discover.—Puck.

TALK OF THE TOWN

Special clean-up sale of remnants at Abbott's.

See the society girls in "The Wishing Ring."—adv.

Hundreds of bargains in women's and children's shoes at Shea's Shoe Store.

John B. Magnaghi of Washington street left last night on a business trip to Boston in the interest of the Presbrey-Coykendall Co.

Mrs. Walter M. Kelly, who has been visiting in South Barre for a few weeks, left this morning for Haverhill, Mass., there to rejoin Mr. Kelly.

Osmond E. Cave, who has been making a stay of several weeks with relatives in Barre and near by towns, returned this morning to Springfield, Mass., where he is employed.

A daughter was born Monday, Jan. 15, to Mr. and Mrs. James C. Walker of Vergennes. Mr. Walker, who is the son of Mrs. Agnes Walker of Grant avenue, is the principal of Vergennes high school.

After the regular business meeting of the woman's association at the Congregational church Wednesday afternoon, Mrs. Knapp, a missionary, who spent several years in Turkey, spoke interestingly of Christian missions in the domain of the sultan.

Before the members of the Vineitia club to-morrow evening, James P. Taylor of Burlington, secretary of the Greater Vermont association, will be the speaker at the first of a series of smokers to be given under the auspices of the club. A buffet luncheon will be served after the speaking.

Barre and Bellows Falls are among the towns being considered by the older boys of Vermont for their yearly conference of 1917 and the choice of a meeting place next year lies among the towns of Bennington, St. Johnsbury and Northfield. At the conference recently held in Burlington, Barre's claims as a desirable city where the boys may assemble were urged by local delegates who carried with them the invitations of several organizations in this city.

Among the successful exhibitors from this vicinity at the annual show of the Vermont State Poultry association in St. Albans this week is William Emslie, who received four first positions on his exhibit of Barred Plymouth Rocks, and other awards as given below: Third cockerel, first cock, first hen, first and third pullets, first pen of old, shape, color and special on female birds. M. E. Gaskell of Bethel, a former resident of Barre, on his Silver Laced Wyandottes received first and fourth cocks, first hen, first cockerel, second pullet, first pen of young, shape and color on males and shape in females. John Gellatly, also of this city, received second pullet and a special on female color in his exhibition of White Wyandottes. M. L. Thibault of Waterbury and Mrs. M. E. Preston of Randolph were among the winning exhibitors.

BETHEL

The Congregational ladies' aid society met yesterday at Mrs. D. L. Chadwick's and elected the following officers for 1917: President, Mrs. W. R. Briggs; vice-president, Mrs. J. W. Steinhauer; secretary, Mrs. Luella Kidder; treasurer, Mrs. D. L. Chadwick; directresses, Mrs. J. A. Graham, Mrs. C. H. Goss, Mrs. A. E. Reynolds and Mrs. M. E. Gaskell.

Mrs. A. Lee Cady went to-day to Montpelier to spend some time with Senator Cady.

Mrs. George H. Stuart of Burlington came yesterday for a few days' visit to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Morse.

Mrs. Alma Goodenough of Brattleboro and Mrs. Ellen Brown of Pittsfield are guests of Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Bass for the winter.

The Big Shoe Sale

Continues this week

2,500 pairs of Women's and Children's Shoes Marked Down to Less Than Cost Price Come and get your share Hundreds of odd size Shoes on our Bargain Tables at half price

Shea's Shoe Store

35c

For Your Old, Leaky Hot Water Bottle

in exchange for a new one selling at \$1.50—\$2.50. Old Water Bottles may also be exchanged for Combination or Fountain Syringes.



Extra Special

We have a new process for our Hot Chocolate—it is good to the last drop

5c

Try it to-night

The Red Cross Pharmacy



SALE

Stock-Taking is Over

and we've found a few odds and ends from many different lines, and while everything is high, and going higher, we're going to close out a few lines, and close them cheap.

Here's the Leading Special Boys' Overcoats

Ages 3 to 17 25% off

the regular prices, and automatically reduced 25c each day. To-day, Thursday—

\$10.00 Coats are.... \$6.50
7.50 Coats are.... 4.63
5.00 Coats are.... 3.00

etc. This is the best chance to buy a good Boys' Overcoat for a little money we've ever seen, but we cannot afford to carry until next fall in other words, we don't believe in speculating in merchandise. We want to offer our trade new, fresh, up-to-date goods each season at a fair, living profit.

A few more Men's Suits, Overcoats, Sweaters, etc., on our Bargain Counter. See them if you are going to need anything offered. Buy now. We'll guarantee the quality and the price.

F. H. Rogers & Co.

Have You Taken Advantage of Our After Inventory Clearance Sale?

—if not, you should at once, as we have some special good values, selling at less than we can buy the same goods for to-day, but these are broken lots, and styles we shall not re-order on.

1 lot Ladies' sizes, 2 1/2 to 4, \$3.00 value \$ 2.40

specially good school Shoes, now..... 2.40

1 lot Ladies', sizes broken, \$2.50 and \$ 2.15

\$3.00 values, now 2.15

1 lot Ladies', broken sizes, \$3.50 and \$ 2.50

\$4.00 values, now 2.50

1 lot Men's 2-buckle Lumbermen's Rubbers, \$2.50 and \$2.75 values, now..... 2.10

1 lot of 1-buckle Arctics, \$1.50 values, \$ 1.15

now 1.15

1 lot Children's Tan Shoes—broken lots. Don't miss this.

Many other lines which we cannot mention here. Come in and see them.

Rogers' Walk-Over Boot Shop



keep up the bars!

"The man who gives the world its money's worth of brain or brawn has a right to the same fair play when he goes a buying"—says the Old Philosopher.

A SPRING AND MATTRESS FREE

After invoicing, we find we have several more BRASS BEDS than we actually need, and to dispose of them we will give you a \$5.00 National Spring and a \$6.00 Combination Cotton Mattress ABSOLUTELY FREE with the purchase of any BRASS BED in our store at the regular price—FOR CASH. If this looks tempting to you, ACT AT ONCE.

A. W. Badger & Company

THE LEADING FURNITURE DEALERS AND UNDERTAKERS OF THE CITY

TELEPHONE 447-11